

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

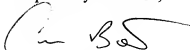
This Amendment is in response to the Notice of Non-Compliant Amendment dated January 18, 2007 and supplements the Amendment filed November 20, 2006, in the above-referenced application. The Notice of Non-Compliant Amendment indicated that Claim 29 must be indicated as being "New" in the claim listing presented in the Amendment dated November 20, 2006. Applicant thanks the Examiner for the careful review of the Amendment. The foregoing claim listing identifies Claim 29 as being cancelled.

Applicants' remarks with respect to the pending rejections can be found in the Amendment filed November 20, 2006. As discussed in the previous Amendment, Claim 1 has been amended to recite that the cycloolefinic polymer and the elastomeric copolymer exhibit a difference in refractive index of 0.03 or greater. Support for this amendment can be found, for example, on page 10, lines 1 – 2. The cited references fail to disclose or suggest a polymer composition comprising a cyclic olefin component and an elastomeric copolymer component having the recited optical properties wherein the components exhibit a difference of refractive index that is 0.03 or greater. In fact, Khanarian, Abe, Miyamoto all specifically teach that to have improved optical properties (e.g., haze values) the elastomeric component and the cyclic olefin component need to be refractive indexed matched. For example, the Abstracts of Miyamoto and Abe state that the difference between refractive index for the components is at most 0.015, and Khanarian states on page 2596 that the other elastomers (e.g., SEBS in Table 2) were not indexed matched and could not be used to make transparent blends. A review of Table 2 shows that the indexed match compositions described in Khanarian had a difference in refractive index of 0.004, which is well below the recited value of 0.03.

It is not believed that extensions of time or fees for net addition of claims are required, beyond those that may otherwise be provided for in documents accompanying this paper. However, in the event that additional extensions of time are necessary to allow consideration of this paper, such extensions are hereby petitioned under 37 CFR § 1.136(a), and any fee required therefore (including fees for net addition of claims) is hereby authorized to be charged to Deposit Account No. 16-0605.

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Respectfully submitted,



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